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UP FRONT

Elk Point Chamber of Commerce
Christmas Extravaganza, Shop Local
Week ready to roll.....Page 5-7

SPORTS

The wait was worth it for Novice
Avalanche fans who enjoyed a great
game.....Page 8

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VOLUNTEERS OF THE YEAR - County of St. Paul and Elk Point FCSS Board chair Maxine Fodness (left) and director Janice Fodchuk congratulated the 2019 Volunteers of the Year Theresa McNamara and Vekna Pease as they received their awards at the Seniors' Festival in Heinsburg on Friday.

Vicki Brooker photo

Elk Point volunteers celebrated at Seniors Festival

VICKI BROOKER
Staff Writer

Elk Point Deputy Mayor Terri Hampson and County of St. Paul Division 1 Coun. Darrell Younghans welcomed seniors from across the county to Heinsburg Community Hall on Friday as the County of St. Paul and Elk Point FCSS hosted the annual Seniors Festival, with a few seats vacant due to a brief shower of freezing rain that caused last minute cancellations.

Younghans introduced Elk Point Mayor Lorne Young, County Reeve Steve Upham, Deputy Reeve and FCSS board chair Maxine Fodness and Division 2 Coun. Kevin Wirsta, with Hampson introducing FCSS board member Paulette Amyotte, now retired longtime member Marie Bintz and new member Geoff Hoyle.

"We are honoured to be able to give back to you seniors," Younghans said, noting that the event was also sponsored in part by the Town of St. Paul FCSS. "I believe that your generation has seen the best of times... where community needs were a priority and commonsense prevailed. You have given us hope, and we will use you as a good example for younger generations."

(Continued on Page 12)

NEACRU head addresses local concerns at Town Hall

VICKI BROOKER
Staff Writer

Sgt. James Morton's request to "Put your hand up if you've been a victim of rural crime in the past five years" brought forth a response from a huge majority of the 80-plus area residents at Wednesday's Town Hall meeting on rural crime, hosted by the Greater Lakeland Rural Crime Watch at Elk Point Seniors' Recreation Centre.

"Keep your hand up if you've been a victim in the last year... the last month... the last week," the numbers shrinking until just one hand remained in the air.

Morton, a member of the RCMP for approximately 20 years, heads the North East Alberta Crime Reduction Unit (NEACRU), which has now been in existence for two years. "We go after the small part of the population who are causing all the trouble, and we have no detachment boundaries. I can go anywhere." In addition to Morton, the unit consists of a corporal, six constables a crime analyst and support staff, and "we arrest a lot of people a lot of the time, with no

ability to say what happens to them after that." What Morton and the NEACRU do is "to try and find who the worst of the worst are and round them up."

As a rural resident, Morton has also been a victim of rural crime, and knows that the pain, frustration and anger are the same years later as when the event occurred, and "nobody can ever make you feel whole again."

Protection of property, reasons for crime and problems with the legal system as it exists today were all brought to the forefront at the meeting.

Protecting property and retrieving stolen items once they are recovered go hand in hand, Morton indicated. NEACRU finds a lot of stolen property, and much of it cannot be returned to its owners because it can't be determined where it came from, he says. "We found 250 gas whipper-snippers, and not one had been reported stolen."

"I am going to tell you how to protect yourself and how to get your stuff back. Use your game cameras; yes, those pictures are evidence. Tell (the authorities) to call me if they dispute it. Take pictures of the serial

number on your side-by-sides and quads, pictures of your tools and jewelry. If it's important, get a record and secure it." A tracer pen, using microdot technology is "a great idea working with other things. If you use one, take a photo of where you use it."

Morton suggested that, "if you're looking for strategies, if you're looking for ways to protect yourself, make your yard visible; you can use driveway alarms, video and game cameras, but sometimes there is no strategy. All we can do is to minimize the risk to our property. The next step is to hire a professional security consultant. Ideally, you need to concentrate on basic things. I'd be happy to come out and tell you ways to protect your property. I will even come out and help you do the things you need to do."

He also urged the crowd to "Be better neighbours, and keep in touch, if everybody just worried about their neighbours, a lot of the time that will keep the burglars at bay. Know what you have. Lots of stuff that really matters could be kept in a safe place." He also noted that Citizens on Patrol programs are "hugely valuable".

(Continued on Page 2)

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Flu shot clinics well attended this year

VICKI BROOKER
Staff Writer

The two influenza immunization clinics held in Elk Point last month saw approximately 250 area residents receive the vaccine, with another 50 visiting her drop-in clinics at the health unit, Community Health nurse Chantelle Hammond reported at the November meeting of the Elk Point Interagency Health and Wellness Committee.

"That's pretty good, considering that the pharmacies also administer the shots, and they go to the seniors' facilities."

Hammond said her school immunization program is almost complete, and she is seeing a lot of Frog Lake residents coming to the drop-in clinics for immunization and well child clinics. "I normally have one a week, now I have had nine in a month."

The committee had another new member this

month, with Bridget Severin of St. Paul Education in attendance for the first time. "I work with the family school liaison workers and in communications, she said, and gave the committee a rundown on the dates of Elk Point's Elementary School Christmas concerts, which will be on Dec. 18 and 19, with the high school having their annual students' Christmas brunch on Dec. 20, the final day of classes before the Christmas break.

Information on the upcoming Christmas Extravaganza and the Shop Local Week which follows was outlined for the committee.

Attendance at the meeting was smaller than usual, with both County of St. Paul councillors and Mayor Lorne Young away at budget meetings. The mayor sent a message that this is "a very, very, very challenging budget year for the town" in order to keep taxes at the same level.

Terry Shankowski has been busy with preparations

for the County of St. Paul and Elk Point FCSS Seniors Festival on Nov. 22, with 192 seniors expected to attend, and will then turn her attention to taking bookings for Santas Anonymous bookings from town and county residents as of Dec. 1. As last year, she said, "We can't do hampers for Frog Lake and Fishing Lake, there are just so many who need the help."

Interagency chair Margaret Modin closed the meeting, saying she is "very thankful for the home care we have in this community." She herself is a home care client, and feels that "others would benefit if they had it."

Regarding a request from the County of St. Paul that the committee consider amalgamating with the Community Advisory Policing Committee, Modin was adamant that the two groups were very different in focus and would not work well together, so she would not support such a move.

NEACRU

(Continued from Front Page)

Detering intruders also was addressed, and Morton said, "You can't just shoot people who trespass on your property. You can use a gun to protect yourself or your loved ones if you are in physical danger, but not because your property is."

Morton clarified the difference between break-and-enters and home invasions, and said "People don't break in when you're home as a rule, bad guys don't want to go to property where they will be met by random gunfire. We believe that rural properties are

typically unoccupied, and a lot is happening when people are at work." If you are at home, Morton suggested, "Whenever you're confronted with someone you don't want to deal with, be assertive and loud."

Politicians make the laws, municipal councils make bylaws, and the laws today "are being interpreted as they are written," Morton said. "As an RCMP, I will not take a position on whether the law is right or wrong, it's my job to enforce it, but I appreciate everyone's frustration. If you think I haven't been victimized, you would be wrong," Morton has

also been involved in an incident where he had to shoot someone, "I don't want to do it again."

Asked what the audience felt were the root causes of crime, answers included "lack of ambition," "getting away with it," "no consequences," "drugs," "lack of accountability," addictions, mental health and "not being raised right."

"These are not your problem not your responsibility, it's all mine. I can say that the justice department agrees that these are root causes, and that social agencies exist to help these people." Drugs such as methamphetamine and crack cocaine

are in the area, "but we can't euthanize people, and when the courts have to release them, they have done nothing to break the cycle. I cannot solve this problem, the courts are going to have to do that."

"There's merit in what you say," former MLA Ray Danyluk told Morton, "but I don't see anything that's going to address the issue of people that do these things, I don't see anything happening with people abusing other people's property."

"They're looking at the issue, but unless they can lock them up forever, it's the way the law exists," Morton replied. "You want a solution and so do I. The police's role is to get the evidence, crown prosecutors are lawyers, and I'm not. I totally agree with you."

"I hope when the solicitor general came, he realized the need for change," Darlene Sereda, who attended the meeting in St. Paul, said. "Rural Crime Watch covers a lot



RCMP SGT. JAMES MORTON told Wednesday's crowd, "You want a solution and so do I."

Terri Hampson photo

of strategies, but it has come to a time when we have to lobby to get changes in our justice system. It's time that we as citizens back our police, ensure that the perpetra-

tors pay for these crimes. Some go to court 15 times"

Member of Parliament Shannon Stubbs said she was "just here to listen. I'm trying to make rural crime a priority, and introduced private member's bill. This is a problem in the Lakeland and other rural areas. It's the number one issue raised in our office, the number one thing I hear about."

Her motion in March 2019 asking the Standing Committee on Public Safety and National Security to undertake a study on rural crime "passed unanimously in the House of Commons and went into study, and I received over 100 endorsements."

"I would say as an MP I'm doing my work. I will keep hitting away on it; I have deep concerns that it will get worse. We are all going back to Ottawa in early December and I will share a lot of the views expressed here. I testified at the public safety committee and a Toronto Liberal said Albertans are "all about doing it yourself." I commend you and how you're doing things. Strike a really good balance. I will keep fighting for you, and don't hesitate to call my office."



MP SHANNON STUBBS and former MLA Ray Danyluk were among those voicing concerns at the meeting.

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'Southern Fried Funeral' hits Allied Arts stage



On Wednesday evening, the cast of this year's Elk Point Christmas Dinner Theatre was busy running through the dress rehearsal for this year's production, held at the Elk Point Allied Arts Centre.

The play, 'Southern Fried Funeral' is described as a big-hearted comedy about family. Originally written by Osborn and Eppler, the Elk Point production was directed and produced by Don Conrad.

The play features a number of familiar faces, including Velma Hudson as Dorothy Frye; Barb Maile as Sammy Jo LeFette; Diana Richer as Harlene Frye; Shaun Sheplaw as Dewey Frye Jr.; Udo Mueller as Dub Frye; Randall Kryas as Atticus Van Leer; Ross Krekoski as Beecham LeFette; Dixie Coleman as Martha Ann Fox; Natalie Beland as Fairy June Cooper; John Sieben as Benny Charles Greenwood; and Mabel Gottenbos as Ozella Meeks.

"I would like to acknowledge the cast and crew for the countless number of hours that they have donated to make this production a reality," said Conrad, in his message from the director. The production was open to the public for showings on Nov. 23 and 24, and will also be performed on Nov. 29 and 30.

Janice Huser photos

CAPC suggests compromise on meeting dates

VICKI BROOKER
Staff Writer

A request from the County of St. Paul representatives to combine the Community Advisory Policing Committee with the Interagency Health and Wellness Committee topped the agenda at last week's meeting, with CAPC chair Dwayne Yaremkevich and even the members who sit on both committees agreeing that this would not work well. The group came up with a compromise, and will suggest to the county that the CAPC meeting be held the same day as IHWC, immediately following the other meeting, starting in January, on the Interagency's regular meeting date of the third Tuesday of the month.

The CAPC welcomed a new member this month, with Elk Point Deputy Mayor Terri Hampson appointed at the Town's organizational meeting in October.

Committee secretary Josh Bateman fills two roles on the committee, reporting on behalf of the churches and the fire department. The Baptist Church has once again experienced an attempted break-in, with a "beat-up door. It's frustrating and confusing."

The past two months have been "steady-ish" for Elk Point Fire Department, Bateman said, with three calls in an hour on a recent Sunday when rain turned roads to skating rinks. "It was a crazy evening" when the fire trucks came close to ending up in the ditches as well and roads had to be closed until sanding trucks could arrive.

Bateman is "really encouraged" by recent changes in the department, and says that while they now have members who are around in the daytime, but may live in other areas, "we are looking for more members who are around in the evenings."

Melanie Murtha reported on behalf of F. G. Miller

High School and said there had been no incidents of vandalism there. "We keep the kids busy, we have six volleyball teams, and we encourage more productive pastimes."

Bylaw officer Krysten Burton has been kept busy with cats and dogs, but a straying llama "didn't make it to town" and did not have to be contained. Fire pit issues and derelict vehicles have also been on her agenda as she prepares to move back to Ontario in the near future.

A report on unsightly premises will be coming to town council, and five warnings were recently given out to those parking in the fire lanes between the elementary school and the arena. "Now I start giving out tickets."

Orest Sereda said the Greater Lakeland Rural Crime Watch had delivered meat and cheese trays to RCMP detachments in Elk Point and St. Paul in appreciation of their efforts. With the rural crime town hall meeting scheduled for later that day, he reported that some members had also gone to the town hall meeting with the Minister of Justice in St. Paul, which was very well attended. The next GLRCW meeting will be in Elk Point on Nov. 28.

Levina Ewasiuk, who represents seniors on the CAPC, was one of those who attended the St. Paul event and said she is "encouraged by the Justice Minister. Hopefully we will have more action." She also attended the 'No More Mr. Nice Guy' presentation, and said that book is now in the Elk Point Library. The Seniors Christmas dinner is slated for Dec. 8 with tickets now available and 2020 memberships will be sold at the dinner.

Brant Evans told the group that the oil patch "is slow but steady" and that there have been numerous thefts of batteries from well sites, with many of the

pump units now revised so they no longer require them, but thefts "haven't slowed down. The hunting season is bad, because it gives people an excuse if you see them where they wouldn't normally be."

Yaremkevich said the recent emergencies in town that had businesses and facilities locking their doors "need to be communicated. The town should know so we can communicate, we have an emergency response plan we can put in operation." Bateman agreed that the information needs to come straight from the source, while Murtha reported that the schools have revised their policies regarding hold and secure and lockdowns during such incidents to allow the principals to take the lead to communicate rather than the school board office, thus avoiding confusion.

GREATER LAKELAND RURAL CRIME WATCH MEETING

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EDITORIAL

Time to deck the halls, floats and businesses

It's the time that some have been eagerly awaiting, the time when it's totally acceptable to put up those Christmas decorations, even if Christmas is still one day short of a month away.

For Elk Point businesses, it's definitely time to get the halls decked with holly and the stockings hung, not to mention the floats decorated for Friday night's parade.

This year, the Chamber has added the incentive of drawing one name from the list of businesses and organizations taking part in the Winter Wonderland Parade to win a free 2020 membership in the chamber for that business or group. And on Wednesday of next week, the whole community is invited to take a look at the decorations in the businesses, if they haven't already checked them out, and to cast their votes for whose business looks the best... also for a free 2020 membership.

And yes, the Town of Elk Point Public Works folks will also be doing their part to make the town sparkle in time for Extravaganza.

Judging of the residential Christmas lights and displays won't take place until later in December, but it's probably much more pleasant to get those decorations in place before you're wading up to your knees in snow to do it - so now's the time!

PROCLAMATION

Shop Local Week

WHEREAS, The Town of Elk Point is committed in supporting their local Chamber of Commerce and businesses;

AND WHEREAS, Small communities have difficulty in attracting and retaining businesses in their communities;

AND WHEREAS, Residents of Elk Point and district tend to travel to larger centres to do their shopping even though the merchandise is available locally;

AND WHEREAS, These same businesses support our local recreation programs, plus sponsor and promote various other organizations to make our community a better place to live;

THEREFORE, The Council for the Town of Elk Point proclaims November 29 to December 7, 2019 as

Shop Local Week

in Elk Point.

Lorne Young
Mayor of Elk Point

The Elk Point Review publishes a variety of opinions as a contribution to debate on matters of public concern. Unsigned editorials express the view of this newspaper's editorial board which includes the Publisher and the Editor. Signed pieces express the view of the individual writer.



WAY BACK WHEN...

Westmin assets to Norcen, Pan Canadian to double production

HERE'S THE NEWS THAT MADE THE HEADLINES OF THE LAKELAND REVIEW AND THE ELK POINT REVIEW FOR THE WEEK OF NOV. 26 IN...

1984

Downtown parking violations were the main concern when RCMP Sgt. Jim Fell and his second-in-command, Doug Huskins, visited town council to review policing and law enforcement in Elk Point. Christmas shopping hours were set at the chamber of commerce meeting, with Friday, Dec. 21 to be the last night of late shopping until spring, and no overall promotion planned for the pre-Christmas season.

1989

Elk Point Mural Park received assistance the Recreation, Parks and Wildlife Foundation in the form of a \$5,000 grant which would be used to get the basic landscaping of the park underway early in 1990. Westmin Resources Limited announced that their oil and gas assets would be taken over by Norcen Energy Resources Limited as of Dec. 1, with area superintendent Allan Frankiw foreseeing no changes in employee or activity levels as a result of the takeover.

1994

Pan Canadian Petroleum told area residents at two open houses that they planned to double production in the area in the following year, with a major 210-well drilling program projected, and an increased daily production from 8,000 to 20,000 barrels in the Lindbergh and Frog Lake fields. The proprietors of Northbound 41, which opened early in 1994, were named the Elk Point chamber's Small Businesspersons of the Year.

1999

A total of 204 Christmas parcels were shipped to Operation Christmas Child, thanks to the generosity of F. G. Miller High and Elk Point Elementary School students, the congregations of Elk Point Baptist, United and Christian Community Churches and Irma's Avon Glen Mission Church. Longtime businessman Steve Wolanuk was presented with a plaque from the Elk Point Chamber of Commerce recognizing his contributions to the business community.

2004

PC candidate Ray Danyluk won his reelection to the Alberta legislature by an overwhelming majority,

topping the fore count at every one of the 58 polls and collecting 50.9 per cent of all the votes cast. Two community wells in Heinsburg were abandoned and reclaimed after numerous failed attempts to eliminate coliforms in the water, with the County of St. Paul adding a chlorination system in the Heinsburg Community Hall with an outside hydrant to provide water to the community.

2009

Elk Point Visitor Information EcoCentre was nearing completion, with its array of 12 solar panels carefully lifted into place, the exterior complete except for the stain on the upper storey's shingled front, and interior painting and electrical work nearly complete, with other finishing waiting for the installation of the elevator. Founding member Rev. Jim McLellan retired from the Community Advisory Policing Committee, with current chair Deanna Easthope presenting him with a retirement gift, honouring his 15 years of service with the group.

2014

Senior high school girls' volleyball teams from the farthest corners of Alberta went for the gold after at the Alberta Schools Athletic Association 2A Volleyball Provincials hosted by F. G. Miller High School, Magrath taking the championship over Spirit River.



ELK POINT PEEWEE GIRLS STORM were enjoying their first year and showing great promise for the future of girls' hockey in Elk Point.

ELK POINT REVIEW

5022 - 49 Avenue, Elk Point, AB

Mailing Address:

Box 309, Elk Point, Alberta T0A 1A0
or Box 159, St. Paul, Alberta T0A 3A0

Publisher: Clare Gauvreau

Editor: Vicki Brooker

Email Address: vbrooker@stpaul.greatwest.ca

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Elk Point Chamber to celebrate 33 years of annual Christmas season kick-off event

It's 32 years since the Elk Point Chamber of Commerce first held a major pre-Christmas shopping promotion. That first even came just three days before Christmas, with the community given from 7 p.m. to midnight to shop at any of 30 participating businesses and get a stamp on their Santa's Shopping Bingo card, with every full line giving adults one entry in a draw for a trip for two to Las Vegas or \$100 cash, while the youngsters who filled up a line or more on their card could win an Alf doll - remember Alf?

That long-ago evening offered the opportunity to sing carols around the bonfire on Main Street, to go on horse-drawn hay rides, to enter in-store draws for merchandise prizes, and to see Santa, his elves, Bucky the Dave's Pizza beaver and Toco, the Treasury Branch owl, with the kids also invited to watch a free video - 'Harry and the Hendersons' - complete with free popcorn, in the old courthouse behind the town office.

That first Extravaganza was declared a huge success, with a holiday visitor from Sorrento, BC, Helene Madill, accepting the big prize of the Vegas trip and Ruth Stone the crisp \$100 bill from chamber president Ed Buck, while Vicky Votour won the Alf doll and Loretta Quinney and Doug Irvine each won a Toco owl. The Elk Point Review's coverage of the event stated, "One sure indication of the success of the first-ever event were the conversations between chamber members and business people the next day, which tended to echo the theme, "Next year, why don't we...."

From that long ago beginning, the Extravaganza has continued every year, through highs and lows in the economy, good weather and bad, with the date creeping earlier in December and into late November, and even being held on a Saturday a couple of times. Attractions have been added and subtracted over time, sometimes because they didn't suit the weather, sometimes because they didn't draw the desired crowd or just didn't work out, and sometimes because dropping revenue in oil and agriculture sectors meant drops in donations toward the event.

Sometimes it was an extravagant Extravaganza, and sometimes it wasn't... but everyone still enjoyed

the evening.

Horse-drawn wagons were replaced by those pulled by tractors, carol singing around the bonfire was replaced by stage entertainment, and for a number of years, the only winter fireworks display in the area lit up the night sky at the end of the evening's festivities. Parades, sometimes long, sometimes short, were added to the lineup and filled the downtown with excitement. Hot chocolate has been a standard for many years, and more recently hot dogs have been offered by one of the clubs as well. The bonfire has been a standard attraction throughout the decades, although once it meant a last minute scramble to obtain firewood and one year, it seems no one remembered to bring the fire ring out of storage.



And now, the 33rd Annual Christmas Extravaganza is just days away.

The fire ring and firewood have been ordered, the Elk Point Lions Club is ready to fire up the barbecue and line up the parade, both financial institutions are ready to hand out hot chocolate and the Fire Department is not only ready to tend the bonfire, but to hand out the roasting sticks and the fixings for S'mores, while the Co-op is preparing to barbecue burgers in a fundraiser for Elk Point Palliative Care Society. The County of St. Paul and Elk Point FCSS has brought in the cotton candy machine once again, and the Elk Point Elementary School Ambassadors are ready to wrap the delicious goodness once again, while nearby, the Early Childhood Development Council is ready to stack up the bales for the bale maze that the kids enjoyed so much last year.

Businesses are getting ready for an influx of customers and to hand out draw slips that will go into the big red barrel at Cornerstone Co-op for a 9 p.m. draw for a TV and Edmonton Oilers tickets, floats are being decorated for the parade, with the added incentive of winning a free 2020 chamber of commerce membership on the line.

This year there are also events earlier in the day, with Heritage Lodge holding a bake sale from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Elk Point Municipal Library holding a Christmas Garage Sale from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Lakeland Realty serving coffee and goodies from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., with the kids invited to drop by between 3:30 and 5 for candy and everyone welcome to enter their guess on the contents of a big candy jar. F. G. Miller Crusaders won't open the doors to their craft sale until Saturday but the Book Fair and the Kids Only Holiday Gift Shop will be open from 4 to 8 p.m. on Friday.

This year for the first time, Extravaganza is also the beginning of a nine day Shop Local Week promotion, so if you don't win the big prizes in the draw at 9 p.m. on Friday, you still have the chance to win some great merchandise prizes in the final draws on Saturday, Dec. 7, and you have extra opportunities to enter all week long! Shop local, and enjoy!

SHOP LOCAL WEEK

NOVEMBER 29 TO DECEMBER 7

Enter all week for the draws on December 7 for merchandise prizes when you make a purchase.

*** SAT., NOV. 30 - SHOP TILL YOU DROP**
F. G. Miller Crusaders Craft Sale 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., Kids Club at Cornerstone Co-op 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Elk Point Curling Club Curl and Crib 7 p.m.

*** SUN., DEC. 1 - SANTA CLAUS SUNDAY**
See Santa at Cornerstone Co-op 2 to 5 p.m., photo service available

*** MON., DEC. 2 - MONEY MINDERS MONDAY** - Stop in for coffee and cake with the fine folks at ATB Financial.

*** TUES., DEC. 3 - TEN PERCENT TUESDAY**
Save 10% at Elk Point Review and Cornerstone Co-op and help fill up the Christmas Convoy; Quilts of Valor info session at Sew Heavenly Quilting, 1 p.m.

*** WED., DEC. 4 - WOW FACTOR WEDNESDAY** Check out the decorations at businesses and vote for your favorite on the Chamber Facebook page.

Recreation Department free Self Defense Course at Elk Point Elementary, childcare by the ECDC.

*** THURS., DEC. 5 - TASTE OF THE TOWN THURSDAY** - Servus Credit Union Seniors 60+ Luncheon, 11:30 a.m. - 2 p.m. with support from Cornerstone Co-op
Eat at local restaurants to get an extra draw slip.

*** FRI., DEC. 6 - FILL 'EM UP FRIDAY**
Help Santas Anonymous help the community-add a gift to the collection boxes.

*** SAT., DEC. 7 - SHOW OFF SATURDAY**
Elk Point Oilmen's Big Bucks Contest at Allied Arts Centre, Doors open 11 a.m.
Shop Local Week prize draws 5:30 p.m. at Cornerstone Co-op

Elk Point and District Chamber of Commerce 33rd Annual Christmas Extravaganza

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 29

*Shop all day at Elk Point businesses
to enter the draws for a*

43" TV AND OILERS TICKETS at 9 p.m.

* Bake Sale at Heritage Lodge 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

* Christmas Garage Sale at Elk Point Library 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

* Coffee and goodies at Lakeland Realty 11 a.m. - 5 p.m., Kids' Event 3:30 - 5 p.m.

* Kids Only Holiday Gift Shop and Book Fair at F. G. Miller, 4 - 8 p.m.

EXTRAVAGANZA EVENTS START ABOUT 5 P.M.

* Winter Wonderland Parade starting at 6:30 p.m.

* Hot Chocolate and Donuts at Servus Credit Union

* Main Street Bonfire - Roast your own Hot Dogs and S'Mores!

* Bale Maze, Cotton Candy and Hot Dogs at the EcoCentre

* Warm Up at ATB with Hot Chocolate and Cookies, washrooms available

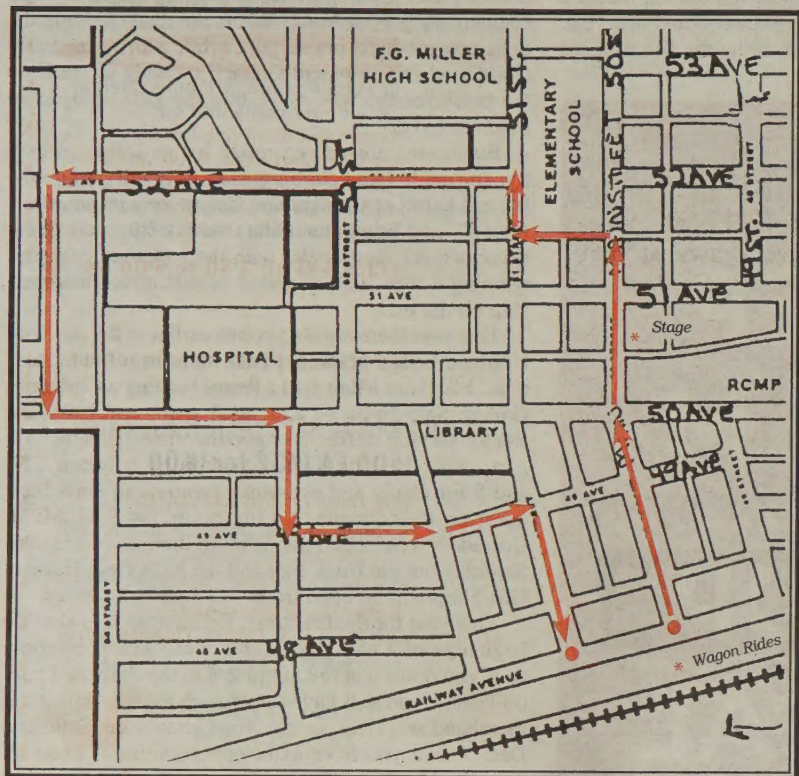
* Burger Barbecue at Cornerstone Co-op at 5 p.m. to support Palliative Care Society

* Elks Hockey vs. Dewberry Mustangs at A. G. Ross Arena, 8 p.m.

THANKS TO OUR WONDERFUL SPONSORS AND PARTNERS: Cornerstone Co-op, Elk Point Insurance, Signatures Collision and Frame, Smoky Lake/St. Paul Community Futures, Servus Credit Union, RONA, E-Can Oilfield Services LP, Lakeland Realty, F. G. Miller Crusaders, Knotty Boyz, Golden Loaf Bakery, Guardian Drugs, Fields, ATB Financial, Elk Point and District Lions, Town of Elk Point, Elk Point Fire Department, Elk Point Elementary School Ambassadors, County of St. Paul and Elk Point FCSS, ECDC, Elk Point Review (to Nov. 20).

ELK POINT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE WINTER WONDERLAND PARADE

Friday, Nov. 29 at 6:30 p.m.



SHOP LOCAL WEEK NOVEMBER 29 TO DECEMBER 7

SAT., NOV. 30
SHOP TILL YOU
DROP SATURDAY

SUN., DEC. 1
SANTA CLAUS
SUNDAY

TUES., DEC. 3
TEN PERCENT
TUESDAY

F. G. Miller Crusaders
Craft Sale 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.,

Kids Club at Cornerstone
Co-op 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Elk Point Curling Club
Curl and Crib 7 p.m.

See Santa at Cornerstone
Co-op 2 to 5 p.m., photo
service available

MON., DEC. 2
MONEY MINDERS
MONDAY

Stop in for coffee and
cake with the fine folks at
ATB Financial.

Save 10% at Elk Point
Review and 10% or more
at Cornerstone Co-op
and purchase a bag of
groceries to help fill up
the Christmas Convoy;

Stop in and check out
the Quilts of Valor infor-
mation session at Sew
Heavenly Quilting, 1 p.m.



WELCOME TO
Elk Point's 33rd Annual
**CHRISTMAS
EXTRAVAGANZA**
on Friday, November 29th

THANK YOU
to the Chamber Members
and all the Volunteers for
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EXTRAVAGANZA
Friday, NOV. 29th

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SHOP LOCAL WEEK

NOVEMBER 29 TO DECEMBER 7

Enter all week for the draws on December 7
for merchandise prizes when you make a purchase.

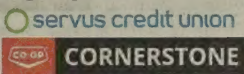
WED., DEC. 4 WOW FACTOR WEDNESDAY

Check out the decorations at all the businesses and vote for your favorite on the Chamber Facebook page to help them win this year's Best Decorated Business honors!

Elk Point Recreation Department free Self Defense Course at Elk Point Elementary, free childcare by the ECDC.

THURS., DEC. 5 TASTE OF THE TOWN THURSDAY

Servus Credit Union, with the support of Cornerstone Co-op, is hosting a Seniors Luncheon for seniors 60+, in the Elk Point Branch on Thursday December 5 from 11:30am to 2:00pm. Your local Cooperatives working together"



Eat at local restaurants to get an extra draw slip.

FRI., DEC. 6 FILL 'EM UP FRIDAY

Please help Santas Anonymous help the community - add a gift to the collection boxes to be used in the hampers given out to less fortunate families.



SAT., DEC. 7 SHOW OFF SATURDAY

Elk Point Oilmen's Big Bucks Contest at Allied Arts Centre, Doors open 11 a.m. and all entries must be in to be measured by 3 p.m.

Get those final entries in for the Shop Local Week prize draws at 5:30 p.m. at Cornerstone Co-op

WATCH NEXT
WEEK'S ISSUE
FOR SHOP
LOCAL WEEK
UPDATES

26TH CRUSADER CRAFT SALE
F.G. MILLER HIGH SCHOOL

SECRET SANTA KIDS SHOP AND
SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR @ FGM

Saturday, November 30th
10-4 p.m.

Friday, November 29th
Extravaganza Night 4-8 p.m.

LAKELAND REALTY
5014-50 Ave
Elk Point
780-724-3030

Merry Christmas

Join us on Friday, Nov 29th from 11 to 5:00 pm for our
Open House & Client Appreciation Event

Christmas Extravaganza

Let's have Fun!
Enjoy Coffee & Scrumptious Goodies!
Prize draws for a beautiful Christmas Clock,
Christmas Centrepiece & much more!

LAKELAND REALTY CLIENT EVENT
To all our Past, Present, & Future Clients,
enter your name into our
Christmas Cash Prize Draws:
1st Prize: \$200; 2nd Prize: \$100; 3rd \$50
We thank you for your amazing support, your
loyalty and your patience. Together we'll do it!
Draw to be made Dec 6, 2019

KID'S SPECIAL EVENT: 3:30 to 5:00 pm
Fill your candy bag (bag supplied) & guess
how many candies in the candy jar! Closest
guess wins a prize! Put your name in for our
Boy & Girl Prize!

HAND MADE SCRUNCHIES for sale
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Draw Prizes for T.V. & Oilers Tickets here!

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**CHRISTMAS
EXTRAVAGANZA**
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 29TH

Come in Tuesday, Dec. 3rd
to renew your
Elk Point Review subscription
and receive a
**10%
DISCOUNT!**
Open 8:30 am - 4:30 pm

**Elk Point
REVIEW**
5022A - 49th Avenue

Wait was worth it for Novice Avalanche fans

The wait was worth it. The first game of the year for the Novice Avalanche right here on Saturday morning. All the players, parents and grandparents had been patiently waiting in anticipation of what the team would look like in a game situation. The answer was great! The Avalanche hosting Cold Lake in the new four on four, half ice format, with lots of speed on the ice and getting players jumping out of the players' box every minute and a half and everyone on both teams getting an opportunity to touch the puck.

'Jesse James' Penner picked the top shelf with five goals. Most kids at this age can hardly raise the puck. But 'Jesse James' may be the exception. He has incredible skill and the knack of going roof daddy. Theo 'Long Horn' Loughran, 'Billy Bob' Ballas and Jaxon 'Magic' Marcoux each with a hat trick. One of the most unselfish players on the team is 'Billy Bob'. He assisted on three goals while scoring a hat trick himself. He tried to set up some other players as well rather than taking it to the net himself and adding to his tally. 'Magic' is one of the biggest, strongest players in the line up. I remember his father Jason was a big tough player too! And 'Long Horn' looks a lot like his grandpa Kerry with his long smooth strides and stick handling. Hayden Badger and Ryder 'Rhino' Malo each with a goal and an assist.

The two female players on this team seemed to be the most aggressive of all of them on either team. They hounded the other team and their own teammates for the puck, Ava Rawlake and Avree Lesyk each scoring their first goals of their career. Hopefully their parents kept the puck. This will not be their last! Hudson 'Hammer' Krankowsky, Lennox 'All Out' St. Arnault and Luke Osinchuk all with assists. 'Major Tom' Melnyk played outstanding in net. Obviously he has practiced there before or played some road hockey with his dad coach Chris because he seemed more than comfortable behind the mask with the big pads and goalie stick

I know technically we are not supposed to keep

score. But what kid or parent and especially grandparent doesn't like to see their name in the sports report even if they didn't score? This may be not totally accurate but fairly close. Five goals for Stetson 'Shack' Reynolds, four goals for his cousin Tor 'Tornado' Aarbo, Jace Malo with two goals. 'Mount Everest' Hahn, Greyson Koppang and 'General Lee' Barstad all finding the back of the net with one. Assists by Aspyr Kelly, Jay Large, Jaydn Sakowsky, Landon St. Arnault and Thomas Morris.

doug BASSETT

Review Sports

Thinking about getting some snow tires? Check with this guy first! Atom Avalanche goalie Brendan 'Buzz Saw' Kadutski saw his share of rubber on Saturday at noon, 52 shots on goal were likely enough to make a few tires.

Seven of them got past him in the first and second periods against the visiting Bonnyville Pontiacs, but he never allowed any goals in the third period. 'Without a Trace' Morgan with the only goal in the first period for the Avalanche assisted by Braylee 'Wee Willy' Lesyk. The third period saw 'Notorious Nolan' Ballas blocking a shot at center ice that would go in, lone ranger scoring a wrist from 20 feet out to make the game 7 to 2. 'Wee Willy' going coast to coast, adding one as well. Remington 'Steel' Reynolds coming out of the players' box on a line change picked up the puck and had a breakaway. He just missed scoring to make it even closer, the Pontiacs' goalie coming up with a big save. The final score a respectable 7 to 3. Kestyn Quinney, Denys 'the Menace' Kuba and Jackson 'J.R. Rawlake doing a fine job of forechecking and creating turnovers. The three big D-men, Jaxon 'Smitty' Smith, 'Wild Wyatt' Fontaine and 'Boe Dog' St. George all played a solid game on the blue line shutting down the attacking Pontiacs.

The Pee wee Avalanche played two road games this past weekend coming home with a 500 record, one win and one loss. On Saturday they traveled to Paradise Valley to take on the Jets, the Jets winning this one 7 to 3. Not sure what their mother Andie Ballas fed her kids Saturday morning but what ever it was it

really worked. 'Stellar Ella' Ballas with a goal and two assists, Kaysen 'Dynamite' DeMossiac and 'Top Gunner' Crawford adding one goal each. Madden 'Mad Dog' Flamand and 'Cyclone Cole' Pierce with the assists. On Sunday the Pee wee team travelled to Frog Lake winning 7 to 2 over the T-Birds. Kaleb 'Formula One' Flamand with two goals and an assist, 'Top Gunner' with two goals. Gavin 'Giver' Kadutski getting the green light with a goal and two assists. Brayden 'Pinball' Pinette with one goal and one assist. And the rugged defense woman, who doesn't back down from anyone, especially the boys, Spencer 'Goldie Locks' Malachowski hammering home her first goal of the year. 'Stellar' Ella, Evett 'Snoop Dog' Smereka and goalie 'Goodyear Charlie' Lesyk all with an assist in this one.

The Bantam Avalanche had two huge home wins this past weekend, rolling over Cold Lake on Saturday with a 11 to 0 win. Shut out number two on the season for goalie Vanden 'Super Mario' Moroziuk. Four goals and four assists for 'Mick Jager' Fontaine. Cea Jay Quinney and Seth 'Motorman' Morton with two goals and one assist, 'Kid Kade' Fontaine with a goal and two assists, Landon 'the Magnificent' Malachowski with a goal and an assist, Phoenix 'Pony Express' Quinney with a goal. Josef 'the Red' Theriault, Ryan 'Ram Rod' Cameron and 'Saint Nic' Penner all on the game sheet with one assist each. On Grey Cup Sunday, Plamondon came to town and the Avalanche put on the pre game show with lots of goals, assists and penalties in an 8 to 3 win. 'Mick Jager' with another four-goal game, also added an assist. One goal and four assists for his younger brother the 'Kid Kade'. Cea Jay Quinney with a goal and an assist, 'Motorman' and Dean 'the Machine' Ockerman with one goal each. Defenseman Landon 'the Magnificent' with a very strong game on the blue line, adding three assists. Speedy winger Wyatt 'Wildman' Pavoll creating some big turnovers with his crashing and banging punishing body checks.

And now for the K. A. Campbell quote of the week. "There are two types of forwards. Scorers and bangers. Scorers score and bangers bang." -Ken Dryden

WEEK 8 WINNER: CONGRATULATIONS JAMES FINDLY OF ST. ALBERT, THIS WEEKS \$50 WINNER

PICK THE WINNERS HOCKEY POOL

OVERALL STANDINGS:

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vavs	104
baba954.....	104
trickster.....	103
wxman.....	103
gurba1	102
scotslady	102
dave23.....	102
Pelletb61.....	102
tongua	101
labric.....	101
kater23	101
taffylouis.....	101
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Craft show season underway



ELK POINT'S FIRST CRAFT SHOW OF THE SEASON saw the auditorium at Play 2Learn Daycare packed with crafters, vendors and eager shoppers on Saturday, with everything from kitchenware and essential oils to gorgeous artwork and Jessica Morris's one-of-a-kind Gnomes (above) on offer.



ELKS HOME OPENER WEEKEND saw a great crowd out for Friday night's game against Two Hills Loonhorns including a large number of Elk Point Minor Hockey players who were excited to cheer on the senior men's team. Unfortunately, there was only one Elk Point goal, and Two Hills went home with the victory. Saturday night's meet up with the Kitscoty Monarchs was a whole different story, with the Elks collecting a 10-0 victory and goalie Paul Boulianne, shown below in Friday night's action, recording his first shutout of the season.

Vicki Brooker photos



Beautiful Babies OF THE YEAR 2019

It's the Elk Point Review's Annual Salute to the **BEAUTIFUL BABIES OF THE YEAR!**



In our New Year's edition, January 7, 2020 we will celebrate babies born in the year 2019 by placing them in our paper for only

\$37.00 incl. tax

COMPLETE THE ENTRY FORM BELOW AND SEND A CLEAR PHOTO TO THE **ELK POINT REVIEW**

Beautiful Babies of the Year 2019!

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PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY.

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Payments for **"Beautiful Babies of the Year"** are \$37.00 incl. tax and must be included with order form.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION IS JANUARY 2, 2020

For further information please phone 780-724-4087 or mail or drop off your entry to:
Beautiful Babies of the Year, Elk Point Review,
Box 309, 5022-49 Ave., Elk Point, AB T0A 1A0
or email: mmcrae@greatwest.ca

Do the math: reusing grocery bags 117,796 times equals \$3,533.86 in student breakfasts

VICKI BROOKER
Review Staff

When we remember to gather up our reusable grocery bags and take them in to our local Cornerstone Co-op, we may think we're being eco-friendly and cutting back on clutter in our homes, but we probably don't think about the fact that we're helping the students in our community at the same time.

Last Thursday, Heather McMillan, community engagement coordinator for Cornerstone, delivered three big cheques totaling an incredible \$3,533.88

to the three Elk Point schools under Co-op's Bags for Breakfast program. The program "bridges recycling with school meal programs," McMillan says. "Bags for Breakfast reduces our impact on the environment while increasing our impact on our communities, and is part of Cornerstone's overall commitment to social, environmental and community sustainability."

For every shopping bag reused at Elk Point Co-op, three cents goes to a local school breakfast program. If you divide three cents into \$3,533.88, that means that 117,796 reused bags were

filled with groceries in that store during the 2018-2019 school year, and added to the other five Cornerstone Co-op stores in St. Paul, Dewberry, Mannville, Vermilion and Wainwright, that total is the equivalent of a whopping 1.15 million plastic bags. Twenty stores in those communities received a total of more than \$30,000 this year, and since 2017,

\$110,000 has gone to those schools to help out with their breakfast and lunch programs.

Co-op is "staying true to our environmental sustainability plan, as our program continues to reduce single use plastics and bags in all locations," McMillan says.



ELK POINT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL principal Rob MacDonald gratefully accepted the \$1571.77 cheque from Heather McMillan of Cornerstone Co-op on behalf of the school.

F. G. MILLER HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS Payden Wells, Colton McLean, Cody Fairbairn and Tenille Ballas accepted the \$1,639.62 cheque from Heather McMillan of Cornerstone Co-op.



ELK POINT OUTREACH SCHOOL staff and students all came out to accept their school's cheque for \$322.49 from Heather McMillan.

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How to apply:
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Only successful candidates will be contacted.

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packaging equipment, baggers, stretch wrappers,
and forklift trucks in our mill production areas. You
must be 18 years old, have completed your High
School Diploma and are in good physical condition
as you will have to handle weights up to 40kg.
Good verbal and written communication skills are
essential. The preferred candidate would have a
mechanical aptitude as well as some experience
in a refinery or manufacturing environment. This is
a full-time permanent position. The starting wage
for a Bagger is \$31.50 per hour.

How to apply:
Please forward resumes to: clawrence@windorsalt.com
Only successful candidates will be contacted.

K+S Windsor Salt is an equal
opportunity employer. We evaluate
qualified applicants without regard to
race, color, religion, sex, national origin,
disability, veteran status, and other
protected characteristics.



3010. Auctions

BUD HAYNES & WARD'S Fall
Firearms Auction, Saturday,
Dec. 7th at 10 AM. 11802-145
Street, Edmonton, AB. Over
700 Lots, On-Line bidding
Antique & Modern Firearms,
www.WardsAuctions.com. To
consign, call Brad Ward
780-940-8378; Linda
Baggaley 403-597-1095.

LAKE LOTS - Lake Isles, AB.
Ritchie Bros. Auctioneers
Unreserved Auction,
December 13 - Edmonton Site.
5 Cottage Lake Lots in Island
View Harbour. 45 Minutes
West of Edmonton. Jerry
Hodge: 780.706.6652; Ritchie
Bros. Real Estate Services
Ltd. rbauction.com/realestate.

3210. Misc. For Sale

METAL ROOFING & SIDING.
37+ colors available at over 55
Distributors. 40 year warranty.
24-hour Express Service
available at supporting
Distributors. Call
1-888-263-8254.

4310. Grain/Feed/Hay

HEATED CANOLA buying
Green, Heated or
Springthashed Canola.
Buying: oats, barley, wheat &
peas for feed. Buying
damaged or offgrade grain.
"On Farm Pickup" Westcan
Feed & Grain,
1-877-250-5252.

4800. Farm Buildings

INTEGRITY POST FRAME
Buildings since 2008 Built With
Concrete Posts. Barns,
Shops, Riding Arenas,
Machine Sheds and more,
sales@integritybuilt.com
1-866-974-7678
www.integritybuilt.com.

5003. Real Estate Misc.

1600 ACRES OF GOOD
Quality Farmland for sale in SE
Saskatchewan \$2,787,000.00.
1560 Cultivated acres
\$139,000.00 rent with 10 year
lease. Quarter with mineral
rights for sale as well. Great
farmers renting and excellent
investment opportunity. Call
Doug 306-716-2671.

5100. Cars

WANTED CLASSIC CARS -
Any Condition: Porsche
356-912-911-930; Mercedes
190-230-250-280-300; Jaguar
XKE, XK120/140/150; Split
Window Corvette OR any
European/British Cars. Rusty,
Rotten or Show Car. Finder
Fee Paid \$\$\$! Call Chris
613-894-1141 or
carhunter472@gmail.com.

7245. Misc. Services

CRIMINAL RECORD? Why
suffer employment/licensing
loss? Travel/business
opportunities? Be
embarrassed? Think: Criminal
Pardon. US entry waiver.
Record purge. File
destruction. Free consultation.
1-800-347-2540.
www.accesslegalmfj.com.

GET BACK ON TRACK! Bad
credit? Bills? Unemployed?
Need Money? We Lend! If you
own your own home - you
qualify. Pioneer Acceptance
Corp. Member BBB.
1-877-987-1420.
www.pioneerwest.com.

7310. Health Services

GET UP TO \$50,000 from the
Government of Canada. Do
you or someone you know
have any of these conditions?
ADHD, Anxiety, Arthritis,
Asthma, Cancer, COPD,
Depression, Diabetes,
Difficulty Walking,
Fibromyalgia, Irritable Bowels,
Overweight, Trouble
Dressing, and hundreds more.
All ages and medical
conditions qualify. Have a child
under 18, instantly receive
more money. Call the Benefits
Program 1-800-211-3550 or
send a text message with your
name and mailing address to
403-980-3805 for your free
benefits package.

Announcements

OBITUARY

BUGERA, Rodger



On November 16, 2019,
Mr. Rodger Bugera of Elk
Point passed away at the age
of 51 years. He is survived
by his loving mother, Carol
of Elk Point; mother of his
children, Anita; daughter,
Rai-Anne of Hinton; son,
Nathan of Hinton; sister,
Christine (Kerry Charlton) of
Elk Point; & nephew, Jordan
of Elk Point. Rodger was
predeceased by his father, Mike
"Billy". A Funeral Service will
be held on Tuesday, November
26 at 11:00 a.m. at Elk Point
Seniors (Pioneer Circle), Elk
Point. Pastor Kelly Sibley will
be officiating, with interment
in Holy Eucharist Ukrainian
Catholic Cemetery, Elk Point.
If desired, donations may be
made to Alberta Heart & Stroke
Foundation or Alberta Lung
Association c/o 5626 - 51 Street,
St. Paul, AB T0A 3A1. To send
condolences online, please visit
www.gracegardensfuneralchapel.com.

**GRACE GARDENS
FUNERAL CHAPEL**
5626 - 51 Street,
St. Paul, AB T0A 3A1
780-645-2677

OBITUARY

Beatrice Miller Melnyk



Beatrice Miller Melnyk, age 84,
formerly of Lakeland, FL, passed
away on October 18, 2019,
at Florida Baptist Retirement
Center in Vero Beach. With her
children and grandchildren
by her side, Bea peacefully
returned home to the Lord.

Bea was born and raised in Elk
Point, Alberta, Canada (child of
Frank and Alice Miller). She and her six siblings spent much
of their youth on their family farm. Shortly after high school,
Bea married her true love, Edward Melnyk (child of Onufrey and
Jessie Melnyk). Soon after their wedding their life of adventure
began. The couple moved to the Andes Mountains in Cerro
de Pasco, Peru, where Ed was a mining engineer. Bea spent
her days raising her two young children, Diana and David.
Eventually, the family moved to Tucson, AZ, where she and Ed
had their third child, Frank.

In 1974, the family moved to Lakeland, FL, where Bea and
Ed would spend the next 40 years of their life together. Over
the years, Bea spent time volunteering in elementary schools,
fostering many friendships, walking around her neighborhood
and all of the many lakes in Lakeland. Bea and Ed were active,
longtime members of Covenant Presbyterian Church in Lakeland.

One of Bea's most memorable hobbies took root in the sunshine
state. The agricultural skills Bea acquired while living on her
family farm in Canada gave her the vision and talent to be an
expert gardener. Her yard was an exotic oasis where every
kind of Florida flora blossomed. She shared plants with family
and friends and was source of horticultural information for her
neighbors. Bea's yard was also a safe haven where her seven
grandchildren ran barefoot in the grass, ate oranges, and learned
to appreciate spending time with family.

After Ed's retirement, Bea and Ed continued with their
adventurous spirit and traveled the world. They took
road trips across the United States. They toured Europe, the
Caribbean, Hawaii and, of course, Canada. Bea and Ed spent
the last decade of their life living closer to their children. They
resided in St. Augustine, FL, and Bea spent her last months in
Vero Beach, FL. Above all, Beatrice will be remembered as a
devoted wife, mother, and grandmother. She was a wonderfully
kind woman who cherished the time she spent with family and
friends. Bea will be truly missed.

Bea is survived by daughter, Diana M. Justice (Keith) of St.
Augustine, FL; sons, David E. Melnyk, (Marlowe) of Fellsmere,
FL, and Frank J. Melnyk, of Mulberry, FL; her brother, Lawrence
Miller; sisters, Grace Balkwill and Lillian Shockey of Canada.

In addition to her husband, Edward, Bea is predeceased by her
brother Gordon Miller of Canada; sisters Maxine Somerville
and Georgina Neville of Canada.

A Celebration of her Life will take place in the Spring of 2020,
in Elk Point, Canada.

THANK YOU

The family of Steve Pankow would like to thank
Dr. Oyebo and Parkview Extended Care in
Elk Point for their compassionate care.

Grace Gardens for organizing the funeral, Pastor
Kelly Sibley for officiating, and the Elk Point Senior's
Centre for hosting the funeral and lunch afterwards.

Thank you to everyone for your condolences
through calls, cards, flowers and visits.

Steve will be missed and the memories he
left us with cherished.

The Pankow family





HEINSBURG SCHOOL'S GRADE 3 STUDENTS (above) entertained the seniors with three festive numbers, while the Kindergarten and Grade 1 students at right performed two action songs before winding up with their lively rendition of 'Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer'.



SERVICES FOR SENIORS were outlined by Karen Knull of Service Canada, who also was on hand at the display table to hand out the latest information and answer questions later in the afternoon. Terri Hampson photo

Seniors

(Continued from Front Page)

Each year, the two FCSS departments honour volunteers of the year. This year, Fodness said, "These are people who don't seek recognition, a simple thank you is enough for them," however the efforts of Theresa McNamara and Velma Pease, who stepped in to revive Elk Point's Meals on Wheels program were definitely worthy of the County of St. Paul and Elk Point FCSS Volunteer of the Year awards.

St. Paul FCSS board chair Roxanne Bergheim was sorry to report that their group's choice for volunteer of the year was unable to attend the festival, and called St. Paul Meals on Wheels driver Dennis Martin "a steady volunteer we can rely on."

This year's guest speaker was Karen Knull, citizen services specialist with Service Canada, who deals with community engagement and outreach and who said she was a first time visitor to "this gorgeous part of the world." Knull gave the seniors information on the programs and benefits available, and said seniors can "click, call or visit" Service Canada offices to receive information on all the programs and benefits they can access, from Canada Pension Plan and Old Age Security to New Horizons for Seniors grants. Those grants support programs that encourage volunteering, mentoring, awareness of seniors abuse, social participation and inclusion and that are not for profit and non-commercial in nature.

She warned the seniors about scam

calls and said, "The Government of Canada will never, never, call to ask you for your social insurance number, because we already have it."

Knull also warned about emails that claim to be from the federal government departments and urged seniors to call their local Service Canada office to check if they are valid. "These people can be very aggressive," she said of the scam artists, who have victimized numerous seniors who are not aware of the danger.

Following an excellent dinner served up by PS Catering, the seniors had the opportunity to gather more information from Knull's booth as well as from displays by Alberta Seniors Housing, Alberta Supports, the Town of St. Paul FCSS, Elk Point Municipal Library, the MS Society, Respect seniors' newspaper and Alberta Brain Injury, before returning to their seats to enjoy some local talent.

Miss Parker led Heinsburg School's Kindergarten and Grade 1 classes in two lively action songs, 'Ten Little Elves' and 'Jingle, Jingle Little Bells', winding up the set with the always popular classic 'Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer', while Miss Thomson led the Grade 3s through 'Christmas Through the Eyes of a Child', 'Still, Still, Still' and 'Frosty the Snowman' to get everyone in a holiday mood.

The afternoon wound up with a variety of door prizes and a draw for a magnificent birdhouse contributed by Haying in the 30s president Martin Naundorf before everyone headed for home.



ALBERTA SUPPORTS - Mary Jane Tkachuk also had a wealth of help for seniors, with a full array of publications outlining the services the province provides. Elk Point Municipal Library also had a display and information on the services they make available to residents of all ages.



ST. PAUL FCSS VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR Denis Martin received his award from FCSS Director Lynn Smid.

Photo submitted

